FIRST ACT OF WAR

Capt. Sampson's Fleet Ordered to Cuban Waters

TO BLOCKADE PORTS.

Philippine Island Ports to Be Blockaded Also.

THE FLYING SQUADRON.

Commander Schley's Fleet to Remain at Hampton Roads.

to Capt. Sampson to Move On Mavana ... The Navy to Establish a Mass of Supplies and a Hilliary Expedition to He Organized

to Scoupy This Mass Within a Wook.

WASHINGTON, April 21.-There need be no louger any doubt that a state of war exists between the United States and Spain. Whatever technical quibbles there may be over the question whether or not war has actually come, the Government has decided that, with the dismissal of Minister Woodford from Madrid, the conflict began, and that from now on, until a treaty of peace is made, Spain and this nation are enemies ashore and afoat. The President to-day accepted the responsibility of whatever may follow when he directed the Secretary of the Navy to order the vessels of the North Atlantic squadron to proceed without delay to Cuban waters to blockade Havana and the other ports of the island. Just as soon as a report is received from Capt, Sampson, the Commander-in-Chief of the United States naval forces in Cuban waters, that he has established the blockade, a proclamation stating that fact will be issued by the President.

The proplamation was drawn up at the State Department this evening, and is ready for the signatures of the President and the Secretary of State. It is the belief in official quarters that a despatch vessel bringing the news that Capt. Sampson's vessels have been distributed around the island, thus forming a cordon through which no vessel will be allowed to pass without fighting its way, will reach Key West early to-morrow. The issuance of the proclamation will follow the receipt in Washington of Capt. Sampson's report. The proclamation will make the explicit statement that war exists between the United States and Spain.

Stirring scenes marked the day in Washington. From 9 o'clock in the ferencen, when a despatch was received from Minister Woodford telling of the severance of diplomatic relations between this country and Spain, the executive branch of the Government made many moves of deep significance. The notification from Gen. Woodford brought relief to the President and his Cabinet. They had recognized the inevitability of war and hoped it would not be deferred. The first act of the President, after he had read Gen. Woodford's despatch, was to direct that a statement explaining the circumstances under which the American Minister in Madrid had been dismissed should be given to the public through the press, with all the correspondence between the two Governments on the subject. Shortly after noon copies of this statement and correspondence had been furnished to the newspapers by the State Department, and soon afterward people all over the United States were informed by the news extras of the situation up to date.

Gen. Woodford's telegram of this morning showed that the Government had been outwitted in its intention to present the ultimatum to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs before diplomatic relations between the two countries were severed. But Spain had not gained all the satisfaction which she might consider belonged to her in dismissing the American Minister before he had made known the demands of his Government. Yesterday when Minister Polo was informed by the State Department that Gen. Woodford had been directed to demand the withdrawal of the Spanish forces from Cuba and relinquish control of the island a copy of the ultimatum which Gen. Woodford intended to present was inclosed, so that the Spanish Government was actually in ssession of the terms of the communication before it proceeded to deal radically with the

United States representative in Madrid. It became clear to the President and his aditers, after reading Minister Woodford's despatch, that he had been made the victim of contemptible trick to which no other nation would probably have been a party. The intructions to Minister Woodford embodying the ultimatum were not sent in cipher. They were telegraphed in plain English. They must have reached Madrid early yesterday evening, but according to Gen. Woodford's teleof to-day Secretry Sherman's despatch was not delivered to him until this morning. Immediately after the despatch had been placed in his hands, and before he had time to carry out the directions it contained, Gen. Woodford received a note from the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs informing him that diplomatic relations no longer existed between the United States and Spain, Everybody in official life understands that the despatch from cretary Sherman was taken by the Spanish authorities from the telegraph office in Madrid read by the members of the Ministry, and not delivered to Minister-Woodford until just be honowing Spanish possessions, Atlantic coast, re the note informing him of the severance of | Spain, Cuba and neighboring islands—warships intermatic relations had been sent to the United of the two navies and a simple plan to follow

From the moment he read Minister Wood- away with next Sunday's Brooklyn Eagle.—Adv.

ford's pelegram President McKinley realized that there was no longer any necessity for de-laying the departure of Capt. Sampson's squadron from Key West for Cuban waters. In order, nowever, that there might not be any criticism of the action of the United States in that regard particularly in view of the fact that the ultim tum had given Spain until moon on Saturday to answer the demands of this Government, he decided to consult the members of his Cabinet as to the programme to be pursued, and a call for the Cabinet to assemble at the White House at 1 o'clock was sent out.

Meanwhile there had been an interesting scene in the office of the Secretary of the Navy. The members of the Naval Strategy Board, headed by Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, ap peared before Secretary Long to urge him to secure permission from the President for Capt. mpson's ships to sail for Cuba immediately. They based their request on a despatch from Licut. Dyer, the United States naval attaché at Madrid, that the Spanish squadron at St. Vincent had "apparently" sailed from that port. Secretary Long laid the advice of the board before the President, but decision was deferred until the Cabinet meeting. While the meeting was in progress news came from official sources that the fleet had not left St. Vincent, but this information had no effect on the determination of the President and his advisers. It was decided that Spain had given her answer in dismissing Minister Woodford and that there should be no further delay in carrying out the directions of Congress conained in the joint resolution approved by the President yesterday. At 3 o'clock orders had been sent by Secretary Long to Capt. Sampson, directing him to proceed to blockade Cuban

The Cabinet meeting was given up almost entirely to considering the naval and military situation and in arranging plans for bringing rictory to the American arms. Major-Gen. Nelson A. Miles, the commanding General of the army, and Capt. A. S. Crowninshield, Chief of the Naval Bureau of Navigation, were present part of the time. They explained the condition of the army and navy to cope with the enemy, and gave their views as to the best means of securing strategical advantage.

When the Cabinet adjourned at 2:30 o'clock after a session lasting an hour and a half, the immediate offensive programme of the United States had been mapped out. In substance this

For the blockade of Cuban ports, without any attack on the defences of Havana;

The blockade of Manila and other places in the Philippine Islands by the Asiatic squadron. now mobilized at Hong Kong under Admiral Dewey:

The retention of the flying squadron under Commander Schley at Hampton Roads until

The catablishment of a base of supplies in Cuba by Capt. Sampson's squadron, and the organization of a military expedition to occupy this base within one week and protect it from attack from Spanish troops.

It was also arranged that a call for 100,000 volunteers should be issued as soon as the House bill granting the President authority to that effect had passed the Senate.

Three hundred transports for troops and sup olies are to be chartered at once.

Mr. Gary, the retiring Postmaster-General, vas present at the Cabinet meeting and took farewell of his associates.

MAY DELAY CALL FOR TROOPS. lenator Walthall's Boath May Prevent Action To-Day on the Volunteer Army Bill.

Washington, April 21,-The death of Senator Walthali of Mississippi may delay action on the Naval Appropriation and Volunteer Army bills o-morrow. It is customary in both houses, when the death of a member is announced, to mmediately adjourn as a mark of respect to his memory, and ordinarily the announcement is made near the beginning of the session on the day succeeding the one on which the death uses of the deaths of m of the House of Representatives the announce ment has been delayed until after the transaction of important business, carrying it well along toward the hour when the body usually adjourns, but that practice has never obtained in the Senate. In the case of Senator Beck of Kentucky, who died suddenly in a railroad station. adjournment was taken immediately upon the facts becoming known. But the usual practice has been to hear the announcement of the death as soon as the journal has been read or after what is known as "morning business," the introduction of bills, resolutions, memorials, and petitions, has been transacted, and then to

Should this be done to-morrow, with reference to the late Senator Walthall, nothing could be done with the naval bill, and unless the House agreed to all the amendments made to-day by the Senate to the Volunteer Army bill final action on that must go over until Saturday, and the President's call for troops, now signed and ready for instant promulgation, be withheld for another twenty-four hours.

BLOCKADE OF CURAN PORTS.

The Preciamation Will Contain the Amerile That a State of War Exists.

WASHINGTON, April 21 .- A proclamation has seen prepared at the State Department aning a blockade of the Cuban ports, and is withheld from promulgation only awaiting news from Capt. Sampson of the arrival of the fleet off Havana harbor. This proclamation will contain an assertion that a state of war exists. A precedent for this action can be found in the action of President Madison in the war of 1812, when he issued a proclamation de claring the existence of war in the absence of legislative declaration to that All the diplomatic representative of the United States abroad have been notified of the intention to issue the proclamation and will inform the Governments to which they are

accredited of the fact. The call for 100,000 volunteers, which is also ready and only waits for conclusive action by Congress authorizing its publication to issue will also contain a declaration that a state of war exists between the United States and Spain. These declarations, it is held by competent authorities, sufficiently cover the legal formali ties of the case and render unnecessary any formai declaration of war by Congress.

MINE CARLES BROKEN OR CUT. Damage Immediately Discovered at Fort

Wadsworth and Promptly Repaired. The submarine cables which connect the mines laid in the upper portion of the Bay and the Narrows with Fort Wadsworth were tampered with a few nights ago and the wires severed. The fact became public yesterday, and members of the garrison at, the fort admitted that such was the case, while refusing to discuss the matber further. The wires were cut or broken. There is a well-grounded suspicion, however, that some person cut the wires maliciously, in asmuch as it is almost an impossibility for the wires to have broken without assistance. The range and to place the fifth shot within a foot or break has been repaired and caused no perma-

Brooklyn Eagle's War Map.

DIDN'T AWAIT OUR DEMAND

SPAIN TELLS WOODFORD THAT RE-LATIONS ARE BROKEN OFF.

Sefere He Could Submit Our Ultimatum a Letter from the Spanish Fereign Office Informs Him That the Cougress Resolution Was Equivalent to a Declaration of War and Diplomatio Relations Had Consed - Our Minister Transfers All Our Interests to the Care of the British Embassy, Orders All Our Consuls Away, and Starts for Paris.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. MADRID, April 21 .- El Liberal announced this morning that the ultimatum of the United States Government to Spain arrived in Madrid ast evening, but that the Government would refuse to receive it.

The ultimatum, which was cabled here in the English language, reached the Government un officially this morning, and Spain immediately broke off diplomatic relations with the United States. Gen. Woodford did not get an opportunity to present the ultimatum to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the Government notified him that relations between the two Governments had ceased before he could present his

At 11:45 o'clock to-day Gen, Woodford, in the presence of the correspondent of THE SUN, Sec-retary Barclay of the British Embassy, and Cant. Bliss, military attaché to the United States Legation, read the following note which he received this morning from Schor Gullon, Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs:

"DEAR SIR: In compliance with a painful duty, I have the honor to inform you that there has been sanctioned by the President of the Republic a resolution of both chambers of the United States which denies the legitimate sovereignty of Spain and threatens immediate rmed intervention in Cuba, which is equivalent to a declaration of war.

"The Government of her Majesty has ordered her Minister at Washington to retire without ess of time from the territory of North America with all of the personality of the legation. By this act the diplomatic relations which formerly existed between the two countries and all official communications between their respective representatives cease. I am obliged to inform you so that on your part you can make such arrangements as you believe convenient.

"I beg that at a suitable time your Excellency will acknowledge receipt of this, and I take this opportunity to reiterate the assurance of my nost distinguished consideration.

"PIO GULLON." Gen. Woodford then addressed to Secretary Barclay of the British Embassy this communi-

"It has now become my duty, in obedience to natructions from my Government, to place this egation and all American interests and citizens n Spain in the care of the British Government. I thank you personally for your ever great courtesy and kindness in this matter and beg to xpress to you, together with your Government, the sincerest appreciation of the Government and people of the United States." Capt. Bliss, the military attaché of the Ameri-

can Legation, was then ordered to leave Spain, Gen. Woodford, accompanied by Col. Sickles, ecretary of Legation, called at the United States Legation at 10 o'clock this morning and ordered the American escutcheon to be removed from the building, after which he turned over the papers of the legation to the British Em-

Gen. Woodford at noon telegraphed to Consu Bowen at Barcelon's instructing him to close his consulate, turn everything over to the British representative, and leave Spain at once. He also notified all of the other Consuls to leave the country immediately. Gen. Woodford, Capt. Bliss and Secretary Sickles left for Paris on the Bud express this afternoon. Now that the worst is known there is a gen-

eral feeling of great relief. Everything is quiet, A special Cabinet meeting was held last night at which preparations for war were discussed in great detail. A definite plan of campaign was drafted in accordance with the Government's knowledge of the plans of the United States. It is believed that, with reference to privateering. the Cabinet decided to act as may be most con venient, according to the necessities of the sit-

LONDON, April 21 .- A despatch from Madrid to the Central News says that at the Cabinet meeting to-day Senor Gullon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that Gen. Woodford attempted to deliver the ultimatum of the United States. but that, in accordance with the decision arrived at at Wednes lay's council, he had refused to accept it, adding to Gen. Woodford that the relations between the two countries must be regarded as broken.

GEN. WOODFORD'S DEPARTURE. Secorted to the Station by the Governor of Ma drid and the Guardia Civil.

Aprelal Cable Despatch to THE SUS.

MADRID, April 21, 5:15 P.M.—A goodly number f journalists, friends and officials assembled at the railway station this afternoon to see Gen, Woodford off. At 3:45 the carriage of the Min inter arrived accompanied by Senor Aquilera, Governor of Madrid, and an escort of the Guar-

Gen. Woodford descended from the carriage and was followed by Capt. Bliss, the military at taché. Together they walked in slience, hats in hand, through the waiting room to the platform where Gen. Woodford greeted his friends. The German, Austrian, British and Russian embas ales were represented by secretaries. Many uniformed officers shook hands with Gen. Woodford as they bade him farewell.

The train left at 4 o'clock, and as it moved away from the platform there were loud cries of Long live Spain!" from the crowd. When the cars were clear of the platform Gov. Aquilera who is a big man with a powerful voice, cried: "Gentlemen, now that we are alone and can at the same time waving his hat. The patrictle ory was given with great enthusiasm. There was no disorder of any kind attending the de-parture of the representative of the United States.

OUR SQUADRON READY TO SAIL Some Ships Conling, but They Could Get Under

Way in a Half Hour. KEY WEST, April 21.-The squadron is ready All the ships that are full of coal are going to the outer anchorage to-night, and the re mainder will follow as soon as they fill up. The Indiana is now at Dry Tortugas coaling, but The New York finished taking on her supplies of coal to-day, and a barge of coal is beside the lowa. However, every ship here can be got un-

der way in half an hour if need be. It is the belief of every officer that any blockade will draw the fire of the Spaniards on any ship venturing within range of their batteries, and it is certain that unless the Navy Department positively forbids such action this will draw American fire in return. No "peaceful blockade" need be expected.

For the comfort of those who have friends in the fleet it may be said that never in the history of the American navy has the skill of the American gunners been equal to what it is now. To hit small targets four times out of five at every range and to place the fifth shot within a foot or so of the target is common practice. It is the theory of the commanders that the best defence against an enemy's fire is accurate fire of our own, and this defence will be made.

As an example, the lowa can fire her 12-inch guns six times in four minutes and airfice small fargets with five or six shots at a range of a nine. Fact worth inver as was good practice to that of the last few days here.

There is no need for the department to order the squadran to Cuba. To give permission go will suffice.

THE ARMISTICE AT AN END.

lagacta Says It is Terminated by Our Action Campon Says Spain Will Never Less Caba.

Special Cable Desputch to Tun Sun. MADRID, April 21 .- A meeting of the Cabinet was held to-day, at which the Queen Regent presided. Prime Minister Sagasta described the preparations made for war.

He said that the period of the armistice declared in Cuba had been virtually terminated by the rupture of diplomatic relations with the United States. Telegrams from the powers were

In the Senate to-day Marshal Martines Campos made a patriotic speech. He congratulated the Government upon the wisdom it had displayed in voluntarily accepting every proposal compatible with Spain's dignity. The United States, he added, had steadily aimed at seizing Cuba, but the island would never lose the sovereignty of Spain. Forty million people of Spanish origin in America were still favorably disposed to their motherland.

Sefior Gonzalez, a Republican, followed, declaring that party spirit vanished in face of the langer confronting the country, and all were ananimous in believing that foreign aggression ought to be repelled.

The newspapers here are bitter against Great the public were relying as a powerful means of harassing the United States. The request of the British Government for information as to Spain's intentions regarding the searching of neutral vessels, and the supposed intention of Great Britain to treat coal as contraband of war have also incensed the press and public.

Captain-General Blanco has been instructed to expect the landing of American forces at Matanzas or Santiago de Cuba, and to be prepared for an American attack on Porto Rico.

LONDON, April 22 .- A despatch to the Daily News from Madrid says that Queen Regent Christina gave an audience to the Papal Nuncio the day after the resolutions were voted by the American Congress. Her Majesty was calm, but melted to tears when the Nuncio gave her a paternal message from the Pope, congratulating her on her prudence and courage and upon her wisdom in watching for the "cidance of Providence as events arose. Her Majesty told the Nuncio that she felt war was a crime unless it was forced on the nation. In her dealings with the United States she had tried earnestly never to be in the wrong. Finally, she thanked God that war was the doing of Congress. She and her advisors were free from every reproach of conscience on that score.

A despatch from Madrid to a news agency here says that the Government has decided to await the expiration of the time mentioned in the American ultimatum prior to an outbreak of hostilities."

The despatch adds that the announcement of his decision was made semi-officially.

A news agency despatch from Barcelona says that the Bank of Barcelona this afternoon withdrew 7,000,000 pesetas from its account at the local branch of the Bank of Spain. When this fact became known more people became excited, and large numbers of them presented notes is sued by the Bank of Spain, demanding cash for them. All the notes were cashed.

TEXT OF THE ULTIMATUM. The Important Document That Spain Declined

Washington, April 21.-After consultation shortly after noon made public the following

statement and correspondence: On yesterday, April 20, 1898, about 11 o'clock A. M., the Department of State served notice of the purposes of this Government by giving to Minister Polo a copy of an instruction to Minis ter Woodford, and also a copy of the resolutions passed by the Congress of the United States on the 19th inst.

After the receipt of this notice the Spanish Minister forwarded to the State Department request for his passports, which were furnished to him on yesterday afternoon. Copy of the in structions to Woodford is herewith appended: To Woodford, Minister, Madrid:

"You have been furnished with the text of a soint resolution voted by the Congress of the United States on the 19th inst., approved to-day, in relation to the pacification of the island of Cuba. In obedience to that act the President directs you to immediately communicate to the Government of Spain said resolution, with the formal demand of the Government of the United States that the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters. In taking this step, the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said Island. except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people, under such free and independent government as they may establish.

"If by the hour of noon on Saturday next, the 23d day of April, instant, there be not communicated to this Government by that of Spain a full and satisfactory response to this demand and resolution whereby the ends of peace in Cuba shall be assured, the President will propeed without further notice to use the power and authority enjoined and conferred upon him by the said joint resolution to such extent as may be necessary to carry the same into effect.

The United States Minister at Madrid was at the same time instructed to make a like communication to the Government of Spain. This morning the department received from

Gen. Woodford a telegram, a copy of which is hereunto attached, showing that the Spanish Government had broken off diplomatic rela tions with this Government. This course renders unnecessary any further diplomatic action on the part of the United States;

MADRID, April 21, 1898.—(Received 9:02 A. M.) herman, Washington "Early this (Thursday) morning, immediately

after the receipt of your open telegram, and be fore I had communicated same to Spain, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs notified me that the diplomatic relations are broken between the two countries and that all official communications between their respective representatives have conset. I accordingly asked for asfe passports. Turn legation over to British Embassy and leave for Paris this afternoon. Have notified Consuls.

"Woodport,"

HAVE WE BOUGHT MORE WARSHIPS? A Hamburg Paper Says We Have Purchased

Special Cable Despatches to THE BUR Bentin, April 21 .- The Hamburger Corres pondent emphatically reassorts, despite denials, that the United States Government had bought three warships that were built by the Vulcan pany at Stettin for Chins.

LONDON. April 21.-The Liverpool corres dent of the Central News says that the ted States has bought the British steamer to Ontario.

THE CALL TO ARMS TO-DAY.

PRESIDENT TO ISSUE HIS PROCLA MATION CALLING FOR FOLUNIEERS.

one Hundred Thousand to Be Called Out, In stend of 80,000, so First Intended-The Preclamation Will Say That a State of War Exters Between This Country and Spain-Plans Perfected for the Occupation of Cuba

WASHINGTON, April 21 .- The proclamation of the President calling on the several States or volunteers for the army was prepared to-day in the office of the Becretary of War, but its saue was prevented by an unexpected obstacle. The Senate passed the bill providing for the volunteer army late in the day, but the House adjourned without taking action on the measure after its amendment by the upper branch of Congress. Thus the call to arms has been delayed for one more day; it will almost certainly be made to-morrow. The number to be called for was, by decision of the army administration, to-day increased from the intended 80,000 to not less than 100,000 men, and it is possible that a further increase in the number may be seemed advisable before the proclamation i finally issued.

The military plans of the Government were discussed in several important conferences dur-ing the day, and the importance of early opera tions by the army was considered in detail. During the Cabinet meeting this afternoon Gen. Miles was called to advise the Presiden Britain for objecting to privateering, on which in reference to the progress of the troop toward the points of mobilisation on the Gulf coast, and to discuss with him and his advisers the plan of proposed erations in Cuba. It is probable that no troops will be ordered to Cuba for a week or more from this time unless a change of plans occur, which is now unexpected. army administration deems it unwise to make an offensive campaign in Cuba at an earlier day for several reasons. The volunteer army can-not be mobilized in the Department of the Gulf earlier than ten days or two weeks from this time. The War Department officials regarded it as inadvisable to proseed with any extensive military campaign until the volunteer troops shall have been mustered for service with the regulars. It is necessary that the volunteers and the regulars be organ ized into brigades according to the plans which have been formulated by the War Department, and in order to do this some time will have to be taken for volunteers to reach the Department of the Gulf, where the regulars are assembling. The strategists of the army are also disposed to

place a veto on any earlier plans for the occupa-The earliest naval operations in the island are to be confined to a blockade of the ports by the ships of the North Atlantic squadron, Many officers of the army regard with disapproval the occupation of an island isolated from the base of supplies until the control of the outlying waters shall have become undisputed to the coun try whose troops form the army of occupation ome of them believe that the ability of the American vessels to maintain the blockade against the approaching Spanish fleet should be demonstrated before a land force is placed on

Nevertheless, it is certain that the army ad ministration is making definite plans to land good-sized force in the island within a week. The attempt will be made to take complete possession of a large port in order to establish a base of supplies there. Materials of subsistence would be established there in large quantities before disturb nce could be offered from Spanish war vessels and then the military operations in Cuba could be conducted in the certainty that a base of sup plies was nearer than the United States.

It is probable that this base of supplies will be Matanzas. The Government receives new no surances every day that the country will furnish more volunteer troops than can be used in the contemplated Cuban campaign. Hundreds of organizations of men who have agreed among themselves to enlist in the war against Spain have offered their services to the War Department. The answer to these has invariably been to the effect that the services of State militia organizations will be employed exclusively at first. It is not certain, however that the militiamen will be numerous enough to meet Are proposed call for 100,000 men. In that event the organizations which seem to the Government to be best adapted to the ex pected operations will be selected by the Government, due regard being had for the number of men which each State is responsible for under

the call. A list of persons from whom the President will probably select a member of the general and staff officers for the volunteer army has been prepared in the War Department. On this list are the names of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee and Col. Fred Grant, whom it is proposed to appoint Brigadier-Generals in the volunteer army of invasion. The bill providing for the establishment of a volunteer army was amended by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relgtions to-day in several particulars. It will provide that the Presi dent may authorize the Secretary of War to organize five companies, troops, battalions or regiments, possessing special qualifications from the nation at large under such rules and regulations including the appointment of officers as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War. This amendment makes it possible for the Government to avail itself of the services of volunteers. Six organizations such as cowboys and men from the plains, who are specially adapted to hard militar vice and who have offered themselves in the present crisis. A second amendment made the erm of enlistment of the volunteers one year instead of three years.

The House Committee on Military Affairs reported to-day the Hull bill for the reorganizaion of the line of the army. The committee amended the blil so that it provides for only 106 men for the war organization of a company of infantry in stead of 126, with a provision that if the organization of a National Guard company accepted by the Government as a volunteer company be not on a war footing it shall not hinder its acceptance by the Governments

Orders were issued by the War Department to-day directing that all infantry troops es route to the Department of the Gulf which have not yet passed Chattanooga shall stop at the Chickamauga Park and go into camp there. The order will probably affect only the Sixteenth Regiment.

It has become known on the highest authority that Secretary Alger has sent an officer of the regular army to Cuba for the purpose of meeting n. Gomes, the Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban forces. What this officer's instructions are is unknown, but in general he has been directed to ascertain the capabilities of the insurgents for co-operating with the United States in a campaign in the island.

ATTITUDE OF THE POWERS.

Prauce and Italy Taking Steps for a Declaration of Neutrality.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUS.

Paris, April 21.—A conference was held at the Qual d'Orsay this afternoon for the purpose of drawing up a French declaration of neutral-ity between Spain and the United States. Representatives of the Foreign Office and the departments of Justice, Marine, and the Colonies

were present.
Rome. April 21.—The Italian Government has initiated an exchange of views among the now-ers on the subject of a declaration of neutrality between the United States and Spain.

800 miles mecadam roads under construction opg Island. Road improvement all over islan

PLAN TO KILL M'KINLEY?

An Informal Machine Sent to the White House Guarde Boubled.

WARRINGTON, April 21 .- An infernal machine was sent to the President to-day. Fortunately its character was suspected and measures taken to prevent its explosion, and no harm was done. The incident was carefully concealed, and all efforts are being made to capture the sender. There was nothing to suggest from whom it came and no clue was afforded as to the man who sent is The machine was inclosed in a harmless-looking cigar box. An ingenious contrivance had been arranged so that when the lid of the box was opened there would be a final of powder which would explode a stick of giant powder sufficient to blow a man to atoms.

Lieut, Cross, in charge of the White House police, to whom the machine was handed, discovered its nature and took precaution to render it harmless. He soaked it thoroughly in a tub of water, until the contents were saturated, and then opened it.

As a result of this incident additional measure ares were taken to guard the Executive Mansion. The police force was doubled, and to-morrow it is expected that a detail from the District militia will form an additional outside guard to the approaches to the White House grounds.

SPAIN SHORT OF COAL. The Result Is Likely to Be a Premature Col-Inpec of Heatilities.

Special Cable Desputches to Tan Sws. LONDON, April 21,-The Barcelona corre pondent of the Daily Telegraph says he has earned from an excellent source that Spain is incomparably worse off for coal than has hitherto been imagined. He attributes the Government's neglect to obtain a proper supply to its reliance upon the success of the intercession of the Pope and the powers.

The result, the correspondent adds, is likely to be a premature collapse of hostilities, followed in the end by the downfall of the Government and the monarchy. There is extreme depression among the few who have been intrusted with the painful secret.

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, St. Thomas, April 21 .-A number of Spanish agents have vainly tried to buy coal here and in the Windward Islands.

SPANISH FLEET AT ST. VINCENT. It Was There Last Night, but Was Ready t Sail as Soon as Ordered.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUR. St. VINCENT, Cape Verde Islands, April 21-8:35 P. M.-The Spanish squadron of warships torpedo boats, and torpedo-boat destroyers is atill here. The vessels are taking coal aboard

from the transport San Francisco. The squadron is awaiting orders, with fires banked, ready to start as soon as the word is

OUR FIRST WAR SEIEURE.

Taken from a Spanish Steamer Abou to Sail from New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 21.-The mules lestined for the Spanish army in Cuba were taken from the Spanish steamship Catalina, just before she left here to-day, and held by the authorities as contraband of war. They were part of a batch of 1,200 mules and horses purchased here by the Spanish agent for use of the army in Cubs. They would have been shipped some time ago had not the Morgan line discontinued its steamers to Havana. The Spanish agent had o'clock. to depend on Spanish ressels stopping at Ha wana.

The Catalina loaded the mules to-day, and was to have left with them. There was quite a crowd of people at the wharf where she was Kong, and not carry out immediately leading, and loud protests were made against allowing a vessel to leave here with coal for the enemy's fleet and mules for the enemy's army. The ship's officers were notified by the customs officers that the mules and horses could

The Spanish Consul and Spanish agent went before Collector Wilkinson and a long and heated controversy ensued. They asserted that as the vessel had cleared before noon she had a right to carry the mules. This was denied, however, and the mules were finally taken from the ressel and driven to their stables amid the

cheers of the crowd present. The Catalina then set sail for Havana. Her cargo consisted mainly of provisions. Her ltimate destination is Cadiz and she may not stop at Havana if she finds naval operations The Spanish steamer Miguel Jover will sail to-

of mules and horses to Havana. DEMONSTRATION IN SPAIN. Beath to the Tankees!" a Favorite Cry-The President Burned in Effigy.

Special Cable Desputch to THE BUR. MADRID, April 21 .- A great demonstration of students took place at the principal theatre in Valladolid last evening. The building was gayly decorated with flags within and without, and the scene was one of wild enthusiasm. There were almost continued shouts of "Death to the Yankous!" and an effigy of President Mo-Kinley was burned amid frantic manifestations of indignation. There were also frequent cries

of "Down with the Carlists!" Violence was avorted by an orator who se cured the attention of the angry crowd leng enough to exhort them to husband heir energies and devote them to fighting the Ameri-

A telegram was sent to Premier Sagasta offering the services of the whole gathering to be corolled as soldiers in the coming war.

SPAIN CALLS OUT 80,000 MEN. Large Draft on Her Reserves.-Hard Fighting Special Cable Despatch to THE BUS

MADRID, April 21, via Bayonne.-The Govrnment has authorized Gen. Corres, Minister of War, to call out 80,000 reserves. Advices from Manila give an account of another desperate battle at Cebu, in which 400 in

killed and sixty-two wounded. The Spanish gunboats attacked Cebu concurrently with the land force. Three treep ships have left Cadiz. Their destination is not known.

argents were killed and thirty-five Spanish

The Paris Sails for Rome To-Day. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUS.

SOUTHAMPTON, April 21.—An urgent telegram was received here to-day ordering the immediate despatch of the American line steamer Paris York, and she will sail to-morrow

morning.

The New Wnumbek, White Mountains,

RUSH WORK FOR THE NAVY

PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE BUSIEST DAY IN THE DEPARTS MENT SINCE THE CIPIL WAR.

Meere and Emplayees West at It with an Buthusiasm That Was Inspiring-Reserved Starts for New York to Propage to Se to the Front.-The Stratogy Seard Erges the Mores ment of the Freets on Cuba and the Philippines-Spain's Appeal to Cormany for Aid in Betatuing Her Held on the Philippines.

WARRINGTON, April 21 .- All the things that vere done by the naval administration to-day vill probably never be told. There never was such a day in the history of the department since the civil war, and probably not in the time of that great land confide vas action of so momentous a character taken as that which followed the knowle edge that Spain had thrown down the gauntlet. It was a wonderful eight to see the way the officers and employees of the department performed their work. They went at is with an enthusiasm that was inspiring, for every man felt that he was part and parcel of the Government and was having a share in defending the honor of the United States. Its Theodore Roosevelts in the naval service instead of one. Everybody seemed infected with the en thuslasm and energy which the young Assis Secretary threw into the performance of his duties. Mr. Roosevelt started the ball rolling more than a month ago, when he was appointed Chairman of the Strategy Board, and began to make the preparations which are now admitted to have been begun not a moment too soon When Mr. Roosevelt left Washington this even ing for New York to wind up his affairs preparatory to going to the front, the ball was still rolling with less momentum, but with quits as much purpose.

Things began to hum in the Navy Department

when it was announced that Minister Woodford

had been dismissed by the Spanish Government, The Strategy Board was in session at the time, It had been discussing what ought to be done to offset the reported departure of a powerful Spanish fleet from St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands. A telegram from Lieut, Dyer, the United States naval attaché at Madrid, reporting that the fleet had "apparently" sailed for an unknown destination, was the basis of the consideration. This was the last official communication sent to the Navy Department by Lieut, Dyer before his departure from Madrid last night with Miss Woodford and her friend Miss Hanson. The members of the board thought that this Government should act at once by sending Capt. Sampson's squadron to Cuban waters. They saw an additional reason for quick action when they learned that diplomatic relations between the United States and Spain had been severed. With Mr. Roose velt at their head, the officers composing the board—Rear Admiral Montgomery Sleard, Capt. A. S. Barker, Capt. A. S. Crowninshield, and Commander Richardson Clover-went to Secretary Long's office and told him what they believed should be done. They explained that there was much to be lost by delay. and that from a strategical standpoint the immediate establishment of the blockade was the thing to be done to prevent any more supplies from getting into Havana. Secretary Long saw the force of the board's argument and went immediately to the White House. The President decided that it would be better to wait until the Cabinet met at 1 o'clock pefore taking action. Capt. C wninshield, as a epresentative of the Strategy Board, explained to the Cabinet the exigencies of the situation, and, as a result of his urging, it was decided that the squadron at Key West should be ordered to sail for Havana without delay. Long and Capt. Crowninshield left the Cabinet room before the meeting was over, and by direction of the Captain, Lieut. Whittlesey and Ensign Ward of the Hureau of Navigation began the preparation of the cipher telegram to Capt. Sampson, telling him to proceed to Cuban waters and enforce the blockade. This telegram went from the Navy Department to the telegraph office at about \$

was urgent concerned the squadron gathered at Hong Kong under Admiral Dewey, The Administration had practically decided that would hold that formation at Hong the previous understanding that Admiral Dewey should menace Manila and other Philippine ports. The Strategy Board urged Secretary Long to despatch the Asiatio squadron to the Philippines at once, and Secretary Long made known the views of the board at the Cabinet meeting. After some discussion the views of the board were adopted, and it was decided that policy dictated that Admiral Dewey should be instructed to blockade Spain's possessions in the far East. For some reas will not move on the Philippines for a day or two, perhaps not until Saturday. Orders directing him to leave Hong Kong for Manila were cabled to Admiral Dewey to-night,

It was on the advice of the Strategy Board that the President and Cabinet determined to hold Commodore Schley's flying squadron at Hampton Roads for the present. tainty regarding the movements of the Spanish fleet at St. Vincent compelled the board to the conclusion that it would not be wise orrow. She also was to have carried a cargo to allow Commodors Schley to leave Hampton Roads for Porto Rico or elsewhere while the patrol squadron of five vessels under Commodore Howell was still unprepared for sea. It will be at least two weeks before the patrol squadron is ready for active service

Just prior to the meeting of the Cabinet, or while it was in session, two official telegrams were received in regard to the Spanish vessels at St. Vincent. These were from the United States Consul there. He said that the fleet had not sailed as reported by Lieut. Dyer from Madrid, but had steam up, fires banked and bunkers full of coal, ready to move for a destination unknown to the Consul. The Navy Department has no knowledge of the intentions of this fleet, It is suspected that the vessels composing it will await the development of the policy intrusted to Capt. Sampson's execution before making any movement. Some naval officers think it will make a spurt across the Atlantic to loston or some other partly exposed port, but the more general impression is that the Spanish Government, hoping that Capt. Sampson will make an attack on the defences of Havana, and undergo considerable damage in the attempt, will direct its powerful fleet of armored ships and torpedo craft to envaters, seeking the advantages gained by the effects the guns of the Havana forts have had

on Capt. Sampson's ships. These, in effect, are the naval movements mapped out by the Administration at the beginning of the war. Many details are not obtainable, but the general programme is as stated. The blockade to Cubs is to extend to all the ports of the island. Capt. Sampson has under his control a equadron of one armored cruiser, two battleships, three coast defence vessels, four protected cruisers, seven gunboats, one dynamite cruiser, seven torpedo boats, and about fifteen despatch, supply and picket vessels. Other vessels are on their way to Key West. Others still will be sent there as soon as they can be prepared for Atlantic coast navy yards. In two weeks the whole island of Cuba will be patrolled by vessels the United States, many of them mersiy yachts and tugs, but sufficiently formidable to provent any blockade runners from getting in

and put of the inlets slong the shores. The instructions sent to Capt, Sampson torbid . him from attacking Hayana at this time. This